



October 15, 2004

TO: Distribution

FROM: Deputy, Office of the Chief Health and Medical Officer

SUBJECT: Influenza Immunization Update

We have made several decisions over the past several days regarding the allocation and distribution of available doses of the Influenza vaccine to the NASA workforce. We have identified the expected doses that will be going to our high-priority population. However, the nation-wide shortage is more serious than originally anticipated and it is necessary for us to readjust our initial prioritization as we move forward.

As of this report, only six NASA centers have received limited doses of the influenza vaccine. Due to the sequence of events, one Center has none of their supply left and another only received 100 doses. There are still two Centers that have at least partial orders pending. How much of their original supply they receive is still an unknown.

In the face of this severe shortage, we will continue to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines for eligibility. However, in addition, the Chief Health and Medical Officer has provided guidelines for further prioritizing into three groups, the CDC's high risk list.

1. NASA healthcare workers who themselves are immuno-compromised.
2. CDC's list of high risk recipients (older than 65, immuno-compromised, pregnant women, etc.).
3. Healthy NASA health care providers.

I believe it is unlikely that we will get to the 3rd group for distribution. If any site has a question about the number of high risk individuals on site, please contact Ms. Janine Scoville at 321-867-2961 and she can provide the data collected in last year's high-risk survey that identifies those over 65 and those with qualifying medical risks.

We have also been notified that some jurisdictions have announced the imposition of fines or even imprisonment for healthcare providers who administer the vaccine to persons not meeting the CDC's high-risk population profile.

We recognize this is a tough challenge, but with the collaborative efforts of the ONE NASA's health care providers and workers, we can ensure an equitable distribution of our available scarce supply.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catherine M. Angotti".

Catherine M. Angotti, RD

Distribution:

Directors, NASA Centers

Ames Research Center/Mr. Hubbard
 Dryden Flight Research Center/Mr. Petersen
 Glenn Research Center/Dr. Earls
 Goddard Space Flight Center/Dr. Weiler
 Jet Propulsion Laboratory/Dr. Elachi
 Johnson Space Center/Gen. Howell
 Kennedy Space Center/Mr. Kennedy
 Langley Research Center/Gen. Bridges
 Marshall Space Flight Center/Mr. King
 Stennis Space Center/Adm. Donaldson

Medical Directors

Headquarters/Dr. Patrick Crarey
 Ames Research Center/Dr. Kaye
 Glenn Research Center/Dr. Gifford
 Goddard Space Flight Center/Dr. Bidnick
 Jet Propulsion Laboratory/Dr. Estrada
 Johnson Space Center/Dr. Fitzpatrick
 Dr. Ross
 Kennedy Space Center/Dr. Barry
 Dr. Long
 Dr. Smallwood
 Langley Research Center/Dr. Gross
 Marshall Space Flight Center/Dr. Lee
 Michoud Assembly Facility/Dr. Barber
 Stennis Space Center/Dr. Taquino
 Wallops Flight Center/Dr. Spinak
 White Sands Testing Facility/Dr. Haese

Medical COTRs

Headquarters/Ms. Zieschang
 Ames Research Center/Mr. King
 Dryden Flight Research Center/Dr. Bendrick
 Glenn Research Center/Mr. Christian
 Mr. White
 Goddard Space Flight Center/Ms. Cavey
 Jet Propulsion Laboratory/Mr. Robles
 Johnson Space Center/Mr. Keprta
 Kennedy Space Center/Mr. Bendrick
 Dr. Tipton
 Langley Research Center/Ms. Koch
 Marshall Space Flight Center/Ms. Eagan
 Michoud Assembly Facility/Dr. Barber
 Stennis Space Center/Ms. Canady

cc:

Office of the Chief Health and Medical Officer/Staff